



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Michael S. Lancaster, M.D. and  
Leza Wainwright, Directors

June 10, 2008

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: LME Directors

FROM: Leza Wainwright 

SUBJECT: Sign Language Interpreting in Community Settings

Through the years, the Division has remained committed to the provision of sign language interpreting services in community settings (i.e., outpatient MHDDSA services). Part of this commitment is the adjustment of policy when necessary to ensure interpreting services are easily accessed when these services are needed. Towards that end, the Division has revised its interpreter reimbursement policy to further streamline procurement of these services.

Attached is a copy of a policy adjustment effective July 1, 2008. In summary, the policy adjustment: a) applies to interpreting services provided in outpatient settings, b) eliminates the requirement for providers to submit authorization requests to the Division for routine interpreting assignments, c) allows providers of MHDDSA services to utilize **any** licensed interpreter or any interpreter agency, and d) allows interpreters to submit invoices directly to the Division for payment.

Please share this information with local providers and your staff. Should you have questions about the policy, please contact Mr. Brad Trotter via email at [brad.trotter@ncmail.net](mailto:brad.trotter@ncmail.net).

**Attachments**

cc: Secretary Dempsey Benton  
Dan Stewart  
Executive Leadership Team  
Management Leadership Team  
State Facility Directors  
Yvonne Copeland  
Patrice Roesler  
MH Commission Chair  
The Coalition Chair  
SCFAC Chair

Sharnese Ransome  
Andrea Poole  
Shawn Parker  
Kaye Holder  
Wayne Williams  
Mark Van Sciver  
Brad Deen

